



# DEMONSTRATION NOTICE

**U.S. Embassy  
La Paz, Bolivia**

June 3, 2013

The U.S. Embassy in La Paz has received information that a 24 hour transportation strike will affect many areas in the city of La Paz, particularly the downtown area and Zona Sur. Currently, the Embassy and Consular Section have suspended routine services for the remainder of the day.

Police have opened some streets, but frequently the blockades have moved to other locations in the city. Burning tires have blocked the intersections in Los Pinos and Calacoto in Zona Sur. Violence between police and protesters has occurred on the Autopista toward the airport. Public schools have been closed. If demonstrations or roadblocks are encountered, U.S. citizens should not attempt to pass through them.

U.S. citizens are reminded of the following emergency preparedness advice and directives:

- Maintain an adequate supply of food, water, medicines, and any other necessary items for your family on hand in your home.
- Fill your vehicle with gas and avoid letting it get below half tank.
- Avoid areas where roadblocks and demonstrations are occurring and do not attempt to run blockades.
- U.S. citizens are advised to monitor the local media.

The U.S. Embassy reminds you that demonstrations and road blockades are not unusual in Bolivia. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence between security forces, demonstrators, and bystanders. U.S. citizens should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. Be alert and aware of your surroundings and pay attention to what the local news media has to say. Please note that the police have limited capabilities outside major cities and communication is poor.

Applicants for consular services that are unable to reach the Embassy due to the strike activity may contact the Embassy and will have their appointments rescheduled for another day.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the Embassy website, found at <http://bolivia.usembassy.gov/>. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, for callers outside the United States and Canada, by calling the regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are

available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

U.S. citizens are encouraged to enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#). U.S. citizens without internet access may enroll directly at the nearest U.S. Embassy or U.S. Consulate. By enrolling, U.S. citizens make it easier for the embassy/consulates to contact them in case of emergency. Stay up to date by bookmarking our [Bureau of Consular Affairs website](#), which contains the current Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts as well as the Worldwide Caution. Follow us on [Twitter](#) and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#), and download our free [Smart Traveler iPhone App](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.

You can contact the American Citizen Services Unit at the U.S. Embassy in La Paz, Bolivia, via e-mail at [consularlapazacs@state.gov](mailto:consularlapazacs@state.gov) or by telephone at 591-2-216-8246 during regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or 591-715-33713 after hours and on weekends. The U.S. Embassy is located at 2780 Arce Avenue in La Paz, Bolivia, and is open to the public by appointment on Monday through Thursday from 08:00 to 12:30, and Thursdays from 14:00 to 16:00. You can schedule a non-emergency appointment by visiting this [website](#).